



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: (504) 568-6820; Fax: (504) 324-0994
Web site: <http://www.lsbme.la.gov>

BEFORE THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF:
Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D.
(Credential No. MD.200595)
Respondent

No. 2022-I-823

CONSENT ORDER FOR REPRIMAND

Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D. (“Dr. Alabdulkarim”), is a physician licensed to practice medicine in this state by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (the “Board”) pursuant to the Louisiana Medical Practice Act (the “Act”), La. R.S. 37:1261, *et seq.*, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.200595. At all relevant times, Dr. Alabdulkarim was engaged in the practice of neurology in and around Lafayette, Louisiana. Dr. Alabdulkarim has no prior public disciplinary history with the Board.

The above-entitled proceeding was docketed for investigation by the Board based on a notification from the Louisiana Pharmacy Board (the “LBP”) indicating that Dr. Alabdulkarim failed to check the Prescription Monitoring Program (the “PMP”) as required for sixty-eight (68) opioid prescriptions issued to patients in August and September 2022.¹

Investigation of this matter was assigned to Lawrence H. Cresswell, III, D.O., J.D., the Director of Investigations for the Board (the “Investigating Officer”). The investigation revealed that Dr. Alabdulkarim had previously been provided two separate notices regarding his failure to access the PMP as required. Specifically, on or about June 25, 2021, upon notification from the LBP, Board investigative staff issued a notification by email to Dr. Alabdulkarim regarding his failure to access the PMP as required in April 2021, and informed Dr. Alabdulkarim of the need to conform his prescribing practices to comply with Louisiana law (LSBME Investigation No. 2021-808).² No. 2021-808 was closed without further action.³

¹ See, e.g., La. R.S. 40:1001 *et seq.* (establishing the Louisiana PMP); La. R.S. 40:978 (providing for the mandatory access and review of the patient record by prescribers when prescribing opioids); La. Admin. Code, tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 6937 (corresponding Board rules establishing the PMP access requirement and consequences of non-compliance).

² Any and all references to notifications, correspondence, etc., sent by email that are described or referenced herein were sent or provided to Dr. Alabdulkarim’s email address of record: waeljasim@yahoo.com. Dr. Alabdulkarim listed this email address on each of his 2020, 2021, and 2022 license renewal applications as his “primary contact email for official LSBME correspondence.”

³ See La. R.S. 40:978(F)(2) (“If a health profession licensing board becomes aware of a prescriber’s first failure to comply with this Subsection, as verified by the data of the prescription monitoring program, the board shall notify the

In the Matter of:

Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER FOR REPRIMAND

2

On or about February 11, 2022, upon notification from the LBP, Board investigative staff issued a second notification by email to Dr. Alabdulkarim regarding his failure to access the PMP in December 2021, and requested a response (LSBME Investigation No. 2022-114).⁴ On or about June 9, 2022, Dr. Alabdulkarim appeared for a meeting via Zoom with the Investigating Officer, where the following issues were discussed: the first investigation that was closed upon notice to Dr. Alabdulkarim and without other action (No. 2021-808); the second pending investigation (No. 2022-114); and Dr. Alabdulkarim's understanding of the Board's rules and Louisiana law regarding mandatory accessing of the PMP when issuing opioid prescriptions to patients. On or about July 25, 2022, the Board issued to Dr. Alabdulkarim a non-public, non-disciplinary Letter of Concern, based on Dr. Alabdulkarim's failure to access the PMP as required in December 2021. Consequently, No. 2022-114 was discontinued. However, the Board reserved "the right to revisit this incident in the event that similar complaints are received in the future."

On or about November 9, 2022, upon notification from the LBP, Board investigative staff issued a third notification by email to Dr. Alabdulkarim regarding his failure to access the PMP in August 2022 and September 2022, and provided Dr. Alabdulkarim with an opportunity to meet with the Investigating Officer to discuss his ongoing failure to comply with the PMP access requirement (LSBME Investigation No. 2022-I-823).

Dr. Alabdulkarim scheduled a Zoom meeting with the Investigating Officer for February 9, 2023. Dr. Alabdulkarim did not appear at the Zoom meeting on February 9, 2023, and did not provide any advance notice that he would not appear.

Dr. Alabdulkarim then scheduled a meeting with the Investigating Officer for April 20, 2023. On or about April 20, 2023, Dr. Alabdulkarim appeared for a meeting via Zoom with the Investigating Officer, where the following issues were discussed: the first investigation that was closed upon notice to Dr. Alabdulkarim and without action (No. 2021-808); the second investigation that was closed upon issuance of a Letter of Concern (No. 2022-114); the third pending investigation (No. 2022-I-823); and Dr. Alabdulkarim's understanding of and failure to comply with the Board's rules and Louisiana law regarding mandatory accessing of the PMP.

Predicated upon the foregoing information, the Investigating Officer has determined that reasonable cause exists to pursue formal administrative proceedings against the medical license of Dr. Alabdulkarim for violations of the Act, including but not limited to La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(13)⁵

prescriber of the relevant statutory requirements and inform the prescriber of the need to correct or amend his prescribing practices to comply with the provisions of this Subsection.").

⁴ See La. R.S. 40:978(F)(2) ("If a health profession licensing board becomes aware of a second or subsequent failure to comply with this Subsection, as verified by the data of the prescription monitoring program, the board shall treat the notification as a complaint against the license, but shall not consider such notice as evidence of deviation from the standard of care.").

⁵ La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(13) ("Unprofessional conduct, including but not limited to, . . . failing to cooperate with the board[.]"); see also La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, § 7603(A)(3) ("*Failing to Cooperate with the Board*—physicians shall cooperate with and assist the board to carry out its duties. A physician shall, among other matters: a. respond or provide information or items requested, respond to a subpoena, or complete an evaluation within the time designated by the board or its staff[.]").

and (30),⁶ and that proof of such information upon administrative evidentiary hearing would establish grounds under the Act for the suspension, revocation or imposition of such other terms, conditions, or restrictions on Dr. Alabdulkarim's license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as the Board may deem appropriate.

Recognizing his right to have notice and administrative adjudication of any charges that may be filed in this matter, at which time he would be entitled to be represented by legal counsel, to call witnesses and to present evidence on his own behalf in defense or in mitigation of the charges made, and to a decision thereon by the Board based upon written findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:950, *et seq.*, Dr. Alabdulkarim nonetheless hereby waives his right to notice and formal adjudication and, pursuant to La. R.S. 49:975(D), consents to the entry of the Order set forth hereinafter. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Alabdulkarim also acknowledges that he waives any right to which he may be entitled pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 *et seq.*, or which otherwise may be afforded to him by law, to contest his agreement to or the force and effect of this document in any court or other forum relating to the matters referred to herein. By his subscription hereto, Dr. Alabdulkarim also hereby authorizes the Investigating Officer designated by the Board with respect hereto to present this Consent Order to the Board for its consideration and to fully disclose and to discuss with the Board the nature and result of the investigation and waives any objection to such disclosures under La. R.S. 49:977.2. Dr. Alabdulkarim expressly acknowledges that the disclosure of information to the Board by the Investigating Officer shall be without prejudice to the Investigating Officer's authority to pursue formal administrative charges against him or to the Board's capacity to adjudicate such charges should the Board decline to approve this Consent Order.

Based upon the information provided, and upon the recommendation of the Investigating Officer, the Board hereby concludes that, consistent with its mandate under La. R.S. 37:1261, *et seq.*, the interests of public health, safety, and welfare will be effectively served by entry of the Order set forth hereinafter by consent.⁷ Accordingly, in consideration of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in the Board by La. R.S. 37:1285 and La. R.S. 49:975(D):

IT IS ORDERED that the license of Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D., to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, as evidenced by Credential No. MD.200595, be and is hereby **OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED**.

⁶ La. R.S. 37:1285(A)(30) ("Violation of any rules and regulations of the board, or any provisions of this Part."); *see also* La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, §6937(A) ("For non-compliance with any of the provisions of this Subchapter the board may suspend, revoke, refuse to issue or impose probationary or other terms, conditions and restrictions on any license to practice in the state of Louisiana, or any registration issued under this Part, held or applied for by: 1. a physician culpable of such violation under R.S. 37:1285(A)[.]; La. R.S. 40:978(F)(2) ("If a health profession licensing board becomes aware of a second or subsequent failure to comply with this Subsection, as verified by the data of the prescription monitoring program, the board shall treat the notification as a complaint against the license, but shall not consider such notice as evidence of deviation from the standard of care.").

⁷ The Board has considered the guidelines for minimum and maximum disciplinary dispositions and the aggravating and mitigating circumstances apparent from the particular facts and circumstances of this matter. *See* La. Admin. Code tit. 46, pt. XLV, §§ 9714; 9716.

In the Matter of:

Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER FOR REPRIMAND

4

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one-hundred eighty (180) days from the effective date of this Order, Dr. Alabdulkarim shall participate in and successfully complete a Board-approved continuing medical education (“CME”) on proper prescribing. Dr. Alabdulkarim shall submit proof of his successful completion of such course to the Board or its designee.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one-hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this Order, Dr. Alabdulkarim shall complete the free online course “Laws and Rules for Louisiana Physicians,” which may be accessed through the following link, <https://www.lsbme.la.gov/content/board-orientations-online-courses>. Upon completion of the course, Dr. Alabdulkarim shall complete the verification process and obtain a certificate of completion that will be submitted to the Board or its designee by the course provider.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within one-hundred eighty (180) days from the effective date of this Order, Dr. Alabdulkarim shall pay to the Board a Fine in the amount of Two-Thousand Five-Hundred and no/100 (\$2,500.00) Dollars.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any violation or failure of strict compliance with this Order by Dr. Alabdulkarim shall be deemed adequate and sufficient cause, upon proof of such violation or failure, for such action against Dr. Alabdulkarim’s license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana as the Board may deem appropriate, as if such violations were enumerated among the causes provided in La. R.S. 37:1285(A).

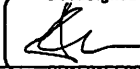
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED this Consent Order shall be effective as of the date it is approved and accepted by the Board as shown by the signature of the Board’s representative below.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall be and shall be deemed to be a **PUBLIC RECORD**, and shall likewise be reported on the Board’s website, <https://www.lsbme.la.gov/>, under “Disciplinary Actions,” and shall be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank (“NPDB”).

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 19th day of February, 2024.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

DocuSigned by:

By: 

BDTEUTE8248443...
TERRIE R. THOMAS, M.D.
President

(Acknowledgement and Consent on following page)

In the Matter of:
Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER FOR REPRIMAND

5

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSENT**

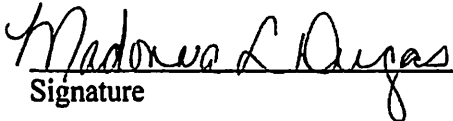
STATE OF Louisiana
PARISH/COUNTY OF Lafayette

I, Wael Alabdulkarim, M.D., hereby acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to seek the advice and guidance of legal counsel with respect to this Consent Order and that all its terms and conditions have been fully explained to me and/or that I fully understand them. I further acknowledge that I approve, accept, and consent to entry of the above and foregoing Order without duress and of my own free will and accord, this 19 day of January, 2024.



WAEAL ALABDULKARIM, M.D.

WITNESSES:



Signature

Madonna L. Dugas

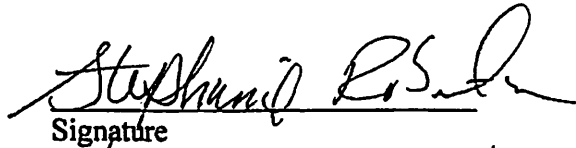
Typed Name

900 E St. Mary Blvd

Street Address Suite 100

Lafayette LA 70503

City/State/Zip Code



Signature

Stephanie Robertson

Typed Name

900 E St. Mary Blvd

Street Address

Lafayette, La 70503

City/State/Zip Code

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
19 day of January 2024, in the
presence of the two stated witnesses.



Notary Public (Signature)

Name: Pamela Leblanc

Notary/Bar No.: 42083

Commission expires: Life

